

NCAA Responses to Member Questions from October 3, 2018 Meeting

1. Sen. Davis asked how the registration fee of \$70 for the NCAA Eligibility Center (previously called the clearinghouse) was spent.

Eligibility Center revenue and any subsequent net income are used to fully fund eligibility center operations and additional NCAA expenses which benefit student-athletes including; but not limited to quality championship experiences, health and safety initiatives and resources for membership institutions.

2. Sen. Davis also asked for a breakdown of how much the NCAA spends on health and safety as a percentage of its overall revenue.

The NCAA national office has dedicated \$22.6 million (9.6% of the national office operating budget) to promote and develop safety, excellence and wellness in college student-athletes, and to foster lifelong physical and mental development. To accomplish these goals, the NCAA national office supports three primary functions. First, it supports various health and safety initiatives resulting in critical information and educational resources for NCAA members. Health and safety priority areas include cardiac health; concussion; doping and substance abuse; mental health; overuse injuries; nutrition and interpersonal violence. Second, it supports the NCAA catastrophic insurance program, which covers the student-athlete who is catastrophically injured while participating in a covered intercollegiate athletic activity. Third, the national office devotes significant resources to support research. For example, the national office has committed an additional \$27.5 million to the NCAA-DoD joint initiative, which includes the most comprehensive study of concussion and head impact exposure ever conducted.

Each year, the national office distributes more than \$597 million to member colleges and universities in more than a dozen ways – almost all of which directly support NCAA schools, conferences and nearly half a million student-athletes. NCAA members use these distributions to fund numerous safety and well-being related efforts. NCAA member schools spend more than \$230 million each year in medical and insurance expenses alone.

3. Sen. McKissick asked for more detailed information on the NCAA catastrophic insurance policy.

NCAA press releases related to 2 major enhancements to the NCAA catastrophic program in recent years, at a cost to the NCAA of over \$12 million:

- <http://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/media-center/news/ncaa-announces-increase-insurance-coverage-catastrophic-injuries>
- <http://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/media-center/news/ncaa-catastrophic-injury-coverage-enhanced>

4. Sen. Daniel asked if the NCAA has set return to play concussion protocol requirements.

In Division I, a concussion safety protocol review process exists. This process requires autonomy schools, and allows non-autonomy schools, to submit their concussion safety protocol for peer evaluation against a “best practices” checklist, which was created from endorsed recommendations from the scientific and medical communities for the diagnosis and management of concussion. Division II and Division III schools do not have a submission requirement, but are required to maintain a concussion safety protocol that aligns with the interassociation recommendations, and to review it annually to ensure alignment. In each Division, the management of concussion diagnosis and treatment is to be administered and overseen by campus health professionals with unchallengeable autonomous authority over medical decisions.

Additional details about the concussion protocol checklist can be found [here](#)